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REMARKS

Claims 1-32 are pending in the present application. In the Office Action mailed July 8, 2003, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 4, 5, 12, 15, 16, 21, 25, and 26 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by JP 05-318,117 (hereinafter JP '117). The Examiner next rejected claim 1, 4, and 25 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Lincoln Electric: Precision TIG 275 & 375 Product Sales Guide (hereinafter Lincoln Sales Guide). Claims 1-6, 11-15, 20, 25, 26, 31, and 32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Colella (USP 6,051,809) in view of Brofft et al. (US 2002/0163196). Claims 7-9, 16-19, 21-24, and 27-30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Colella in view of Brofft et al. and further in view of Alfaro (USP 5,927,839). Claims 5, 11, 12, 15, 16, 20-24, 26, and 30-32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lincoln Sales Guide. Claim 7-9, 18, 19, and 27-29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lincoln Sales Guide and further in view of Alfaro. Applicant appreciates the indication of allowability of claim 10.

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 4, 5, 12, 15, 16, 21, 25, and 26, under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by JP '117 stating that JP '117 teaches a welding-type power supply that has a drawer disposed inside of the welding-type power supply so that the drawer is movable in and out of the supply. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

JP '117 shows a battery case (2) with a holder (5) disposed therein. A welder part (3) is attached to a top surface of the battery case (2). As shown in Figs. 6 and 8, the holder (5) of JP '117 is housed within battery case (2) and welder part (3) is attached thereto. Simply, the battery case and the rudder part are defined by separate housings that are secured to another. In contrast, claim 1, as amended, calls for, in part, a drawer disposed inside of a welding-type power supply defined by a frame connected to a base. Claim 12 calls for, in part, a storage compartment movably disposed inside an enclosure housing a plurality of welding-type electronics. Similarly, claim 21 calls for, in part, a housing having a base panel, a plurality of side panels extending from the base panel, and a cover disposed about the plurality of side panels. A means for storing a welding-type accessory is disposed inside of the housing and adjacent to welding-type power supply electronics.

It is apparent that the battery holder (5) of JP '117, while being positioned movably within the battery case (2), is not within the housing of the welder part (3) as shown in Fig. 4. Specifically, as stated in the Constitution, "a holder (5) is stored in a state capable of taking in and

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out of the battery case (2) on which a welder part (3) is mounted." As such, JP '117 clearly does not disclose a drawer integrally formed in a housing of a welding-type power supply. As such, Applicant believes that which is called for in claims 1, 12, 21, 25, and 26 is patentably distinct over JP '117.

The Examiner next rejected claims 1, 4, and 25 under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as being anticipated by Lincoln Electric: Precision TIG 275 & 375 Product Sales Guide stating that the Lincoln Sales Guide teaches a welding-type power supply with a storage drawer disposed inside of the power supply housing. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Initially, it is noted that the present application was filed January 22, 2002, and the Lincoln Sales Guide referenced has a publication date of November 2001. Even though Applicant reserves the right to ante-date the Lincoln Sales Guide reference, Applicant believes that there are marked distinctions between the present claims and that disclosed by the Lincoln Sales Guide and, therefore, elects to distinguish the present invention over the Lincoln Sales Guide.

As shown in slide 13 of Section 5 of the Lincoln Sales Guide, a lockable large storage drawer is included in the optional undercooler that is mounted to a base of the power source. That is, it is not the welder-type power source that includes a drawer, but rather an optional undercooler that includes the lockable drawer. As amended, claim 1 calls for, in part, a drawer disposed inside of a housing of a welding-type power supply. The drawer shown in the reference is within a housing, but that housing is not of a welding-type power supply. Similar to the JP '117 reference, the drawer is part of a separate housing or structure that is mounted to a power source. As such, Applicant believes that which is called for in claim 1 is patentably distinct over Lincoln Sales Guide.

The Examiner next rejected claims 1-6, 11-15, 20, 25, 26, 31, and 32 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Colella in view of Brofft et al. stating that Brofft et al. teaches a welding power supply in which a drawer is used for storage. As previously stated, the drawer of the present application is integrated into the welding-type power supply, not merely attached thereto.

Similar to the Lincoln Product Sales Guide, it is noted that the present application was filed January 22, 2002, and the Brofft et al. reference was filed May 4, 2001. Even though Applicant reserves the right to ante-date the Brofft et al. reference, Applicant believes that there are marked distinctions between the present claims and that disclosed by Brofft et al. and, therefore, elects to distinguish the present invention over Brofft et al.

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Brofft et al. discloses that "feet 18a and 18b create a space or gap 20 beneath lower housing portion 10c which may be used for a storage drawer or for elongated cargo such as plywood sheets." Brofft et al. at Paragraph 0029. As such, Brofft et al. does not disclose a storage drawer within a housing of a welding-type power source. While Colella discloses a self-contained integrated welder/generator and compressor, Colella merely discloses a space within the housing that is not occupied by the individual components of the unit. That is, the storage compartment of Colella is not a drawer and is not movable with respect to the unit. As such, even in combination, Colella and Brofft et al. fail to teach or suggest a drawer formed in a welding-type power source.

The Examiner further rejected claims 7-9, 16-19, 21-24, and 27-30 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Colella in view of Brofft et al. and further in view of Alfaro. Independent claim 21 calls for, in part, a means for storing welding-type accessories inside of a housing and adjacent to a welding-type power supply, wherein the means for storing is removably stored inside the housing. Independent claim 24 calls for, in part, a welding-type power supply defined by a closed volume and a storage compartment disposed inside the closed volume. As previously stated, the combination of references applied by the Examiner does not teach or suggest a welder-type power source having a drawer formed into the internal volume of the power supply.

The Examiner next rejected claims 5, 11, 12, 15, 16, 20-24, 26, and 30-32 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) in light of the Lincoln Sales Guide. As previously argued, Applicant respectfully disagrees that the Lincoln Sales Guide teaches or suggests a storage drawer integral to a housing of a welding-type power supply. That is, the drawer of Lincoln Sales Guide is not integral to the housing of the welder-type power supply, but is formed in an optional undercooler cabinet. The drawer is formed in a housing separate from the housing of the welder-type power source. As such, Applicant believes that which is called for in claims 5, 11, 12, 21, 24, 26, 30, 31, and 32 is patentably distinct from that which is shown in Lincoln Sales Guide.

Regarding the Examiner's rejections of claims 2-9, 11, 13-20, 22, 23, 27, and 28, Applicant disagrees with the Examiner with respect to the art as applied but believes additional remarks are unnecessary as claims 2-9, 11, 13-20, 22, 23, and 27 depend from what is believed otherwise allowable claims.

Claim 33 newly presented herein is a combination of previously submitted claim 1 and the subject matter of allowable claim 10. As such, Applicant believes claim 33 is in condition for allowance. Applicant requests entry and consideration of claims 34-38 newly presented herein to define the invention.

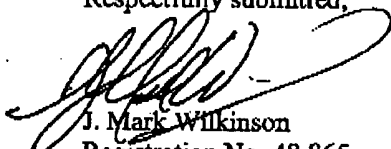
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Therefore, in light of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully believes that the present application is in condition for allowance. As such, Applicant respectfully requests timely issuance of a Notice of Allowance for claims 1-24 and 33-38.

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's consideration of these Amendments and Remarks and cordially invites the Examiner to call the undersigned, should the Examiner consider any matters unresolved.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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